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Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer Announces Settlement of Grantville Redevelopment Area Litigation

Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer announced today the City Council, acting as the City's Redevelopment Agency, voted to accept a settlement agreement on litigation that has delayed implementation of the Grantville Redevelopment Area. The Grantville Redevelopment Area will produce over \$600 million in tax increment to be invested in infrastructure amenities including the San Diego River Park, a new library and recreation center for Allied Gardens as well as numerous traffic and flooding improvements to the Grantville area.

Madaffer was successful in working with his colleagues and the community to approve the settlement. The City Council first approved the redevelopment area in 2005, however, the County of San Diego filed a law suit. After three years, the City and County reached an agreement whereby the City's Centre City Development Corporation will pay the County \$31.36 million over a 39 year period. The City Council's action tonight finalizes the City's acceptance of an agreement with the County and enables it to implement plans for a revitalized Grantville.

"For more than 25 years Grantville has suffered as a stepchild of the Navajo Community Plan. Now residents and business owners have a revenue source to add critical infrastructure amenities to their community. From horrible traffic, to flooding issues, to incompatible land uses, to neglecting a natural amenity such as the San Diego River to a lack of infrastructure funds – the Grantville Redevelopment plan will fix those problems," said Council President Pro Tem Madaffer. "We don't want another Mission Valley. Instead, we're looking at the big picture with a comprehensive, overall plan rather than allowing piecemeal, haphazard development to occur."

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Calling it one of the most important issues during his term in office, Council President Pro Tem said the plan means dollars to alter streets to improve traffic flow, to create better access to public transportation, to build needed housing and to provide public access and use of the San Diego River. He stressed that the funding source is not an increase in taxes and helps relieves the City's general fund from over \$600 million in needs for the Grantville community.

He said priorities for implementing the plan include traffic and circulation congestion relief, Community Plan update, improved infrastructure to alleviate flooding problems, renovation and repair of existing structures, coordination and assistance to implement the San Diego River Master Plan, new community amenities and assets and a new and globally planned development projects.